Shortage of Fodder

†4138. SHRI BACHANI LEKHRAJ : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that there has been shortage of fodder for cattle in the various parts of the country due to shortfall of rain;

(b) if so, whether cows have died in the State of Gujarat also due to shortage of fodder;

(c) if so, whether Government of Gujarat have asked to grant from Government to solve this problem;

(d) if so, the details thereof and whether Government have taken any decision so far in this regard; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV) : (a) Yes Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) to (e) The following amounts have also been released by the Central Government in the wake of National Calamity relief;

1999-2000

Central share of Calamity Relief Fund amounting to Rs. 121.05 crores.

Assistance of Rs. 54.58 crores from the National Fund for Calamity Relief.

2000-2001

Two quarterly instalments of Central Share of Calamity Relief Fund amounting to Rs. 87.42 crores.

Fall in Foodgrain Production

4139. SHRI NANA DESHMUKH : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware of the news-items titled "Survey predicts fall in foodgrain production" appearing in the Indian Express, dated 29th February, 2000;

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†Original notice of the Question was received in Hindi.